FRANCIS DE ST. JEOR

Francis De St. Jeor, one of the settlers who came to Clover in 1856, was the first bishop of Clover Ward, serving in that capacity from the organization of the Clover Ward on July 22, 1882, until June 16, 1901. A few days later, on June 20, 1901, he was ordained a Patriarch, and was known to the many who respected him in that calling as "Patriarch St. Jeor."

Francis De St. Jeor was born on the Isle of Jersey, which was then under the British government, on July 11, 1822. His parents were natives of the Province of Normandy in France, and he spoke French as a child, though later, through diligent study, he mastered the English language.

When Francis was about 10 or 11 years old, his father died. His grandfather, who had been impressed with Francis when the family visited France a few years before, offered to take care of him; so his mother took him to France, and there his grandfather and grand uncle began to educate him for the Roman Catholic priesthood. But God ruled otherwise for this man. After about two years of study, his grandfather died. His mother came to France and took Francis home with her.

He began attending a Church of England Sunday school, having prepared himself by diligent study of a French-English Bible in an effort to learn English. He was placed in charge of a class in the New Testament, but became offended and withdrew from the school.

On February 26, 1842, he was married to Elizabeth Jean, who was also a native of Jersey. He worked at the trade for which he had been trained, that of a shoemaker, until 1848, when he was persuaded to take over the dairy business of a neighbor.

About this time, a remarkable event occurred in his life. One of his neighbors named Kerby had joined the Mormon church. Three Mormon elders from the London conference, John Banks, T. B. Stenhouse, and William Dunbar, had come to Jersey to adjust some difficulties there. They were returning from Mr. Kerby's home, where they had had dinner, when they passed the home of Francis De.St. Jeor. He was standing in the doorway, and one of the elders turned suddenly and looked directly at him, then said, "That one will soon be one of ours." Francis turned to his wife and repeated the remark, saying that he was sure it was false. However, he attended a meeting of the Mormons, and a few days later went to another of their meetings, at which Elder Dunbar was the speaker. Of this meeting he wrote: "The truths he brought forth were so self-evident to my mind, I could not reject them. In the close of his sermon, he said, 'The message we bear is from God, and if one will do the will of God the Eternal Father, he will receive a testimony of the message we bear.' At the close of the meeting, I gave my name as a candidate for baptism."

Francis De St. Jeor began to labor as a missionary of the Mormon church and was appointed to preside over the St. John branch on the Isle of Jersey. In the spring of 1855, most of the members of the St. John branch, including the De St. Jeors, began preparations to emigrate to Utah. They sailed for Liverpool on March 30, 1855, and from there they sailed for America

on April 15. During their journey to America, the Jersey saints had decided to lay the foundation of a French colony when they arrived in Utah. However, when they arrived in Salt Lake City on October 26, "our project," he writes, "disappeared like dew before the morning sun." Most of the crops had been destroyed by grasshoppers, and there was considerable poverty. The new arrivals were invited into the homes of some of the settlers, and so they became scattered among them. While they were camped on the union square, a man named Messervey, who had been baptized on the Isle of Jersey by Francis De St. Jeor, came with his ox team and took the De St. Jeor family with him to his home in Tooele City. Francis De St. Jeor tried his hand at farming there, with disappointing results.

"Rush Valley," he said, "was spoken of as the cream of the West." So he sold out in Tooele and moved with his family to Rush Valley on the 27th of December, 1856, joining the little settlement on Clover Creek. 1857 saw him appointed a captain in the Utah Militia. With his family and others from the settlement, he moved south to Lehi when the Johnston army entered Utah in 1858. When they returned to their homes, he and James Steel took a contract to supply 150 cord of wood for the army quarter-master, and they and their families camped in Cedar Valley to obtain the wood. On their return they established a Sunday School in the settlement of Shambip, as it was called at that time.

A drought in 1865 made him decide to seek a place where water was more plentiful. "Deseret at that time was boomed up as the Eldorado of Utah," he said, so he went there and bought a tract of land. In January of 1866, he and Evan Morgan moved to Deseret. The venture did not prove successful, and he had to obtain work on the railroad to support his families. In March of 1869, he returned to Rush Valley and commenced to make a new home. "My son-in-law John J. Child made me an offer, if I would stay in Rush Valley and make a home, he would divide his water right with me. I accepted his kind offer," he says. In 1864, he married Harriet Lemasur. His first wife, Elizabeth Jean, met with an accident in 1889, which resulted in her death. (See page 30, "Tragedies in Clover.")

He and his wife Elizabeth Jean were the parents of eight children, three of whom died as small children. Their children were:

Elizabeth Ann	Born 4 September 1844, Isle of Jersey Married John J. Child
Francis John	Born 26 November 1846, Isle Of Jersey Married Ingar Larsen
Richard	Born 25 July 1848, Isle Of Jersey Died 1852
Samuel F.	Born 25 September 1851, Isle of Jersey Died 6 October 1851
Louis	Born 26 July 1854, Isle of Jersey Died 14 September 1858
Ephraim	Born 20 February 1857, Rush Valley, Utah Married Mary Garner
Meranda Jane	Born 6 May 1860, Rush Valley, Utah Married William Paul
Alfred	Born 6 June 1862, Rush Valley, Utah Married Phebe Johnson

He and his wife Harriet Lemasur were the parents of three sons:

William	Born 30 August 1865, Clover, Utah Married Elizabeth Carter
John	Born 4 January 1868, Deseret, Utah Married Fanny Bradder
Charles	Born 2 September 1871, Clover, Utah Married Alice Maud Bradder

Francis De St. Jeor died at Clover on December 27, 1913. At that time, the Deseret News said of him: "Mr. De St. Jeor acted for 30 years as superintendent of Sunday School and 19 years as Bishop of Clover Ward. He held the office of Bishop until he was ordained to the office of Patriarch, which office he held at the time of his death."

MAHONRI M. STOOKEY

The second bishop of the Clover Ward was Mahonri M. Stookey, the ninth and youngest child of Enos and Jemima Stookey. He was born at the old Stookey homestead on September 24, 1870, and grew up on the farm.

He taught school at Grantsville, where his brother Alonzo was also a teacher. At a dance at Garfield Beach (which was a very popular place for fun in those days) he met Matilda Jefferies of Grantsville, who was to become his wife. On Mahonri's birthday, September 24, 1896, they were married in the Salt Lake Temple. They drove a nice buggy to northern Utah and Idaho for their honeymoon trip. Soon after their return, he was called on a mission for the L. D. S. Church, to Illinois. His wife spent the last few months of his mission living in Illinois with Mahonri's brother Walter and Walter's wife, Mary, so that she could be near her husband.

After returning from his mission, Mahonri Stookey continued his studies at the University of Deseret. Then he and his wife made their home at Clover, at the old Stookey homestead.

In June, 1901, he became bishop of Clover Ward, and served nearly eleven years. During his service as bishop the red brick meeting house was built and dedicated, and was a joy and a blessing to all. He and his wife Tillie, as she was called, were accomplished musicians. She played the organ and he the violin--talents which were helpful in the ward services, and also at dances and entertainments. He was also an excellent choir leader. They played for dances which were held quite regularly in the dance hall in the huge Stookey barn. Bishop Mahonri was a very happy, energetic, and friendly person, tireless in his work of promoting the welfare of the ward.

Mahonri and Tillie Stookey were the parents of eight children. On June 15, 1917, a great tragedy struck. Melvin, their oldest child, died in an explosion and fire in which the historic pioneer barn built by Enos Stookey was destroyed. Mahonri was so shaken and saddened by this tragedy that he sold out and made another home in Clover.

The children of Mahonri and Matilda Stookey are:

Melvin — Born Nov. 11, 1900
Died June 15, 1917

Ella M. — Born Nov. 11, 1902
Married Glen L. Bracken. They live in St. John, Utah, and are the parents of six children: Lillian, who died accidentally when nearly four years of age; Donald; Jean; Melvin R.; Stanley W.; and Thelma.

Samuel Milton — Married Gladys I. Arthur of St. John. They live in Clover, Utah, and are the parents of two children: Garth A. and Joan.

George W. — Married Mary Hall of Tooele. They were the parents of two children: Gearald W. and Allen. They were later divorced and George married Dorothea St. Aubrey. They have one son, Noel, and live in Pacific Grove, California.

Mary E. — Married Lionel J. Bush of Clover, Utah. They are the parents of four children: Lonna, Steven, Samuel, and Susan. They live in Denver, Colorado.

Dale J. — Married Dorotha Phelps of Denver, Colorado. They have two children: Richard and Donna. Their home is in Pacific Grove, California.

Royal G. — Married LaRue Larson, but this marriage was annulled.
Married Dorothy Stewart of Denver, Colorado. They had six children: Joel, Deanne, Gail, Bryan, Jeffory, and Gregory. Recently they were divorced. Royal married again and he and his wife are now living in France.

Leah — Married Robert T. Gilkey of San Francisco, California. They have three children: Susan Claire, Robert, and Lynda. Their home is in Santa Clara, California.

Mahonri Stookey died following an illness in a Salt Lake hospital on Dec. 30, 1939, at the age of 69.

(The above sketch was prepared by his daughter, Ella Bracken)

JOSEPH WILLIAM RUSSELL, SR.

Joseph William Russell, Sr., was born April 8, 1887 at St. John, Utah, son of Joseph Smith and Margaret Charles Russell. He spent his childhood in St. John, but later on the family moved to their farm in Clover. He worked on the farm and also helped his father in taking care of his sheep. He attended district school in both St. John and Clover. As a young man he worked in the Mutual and Sunday School.

In the summer of 1906, he received a call for a mission, and in September he entered the L.D.S. College and took a missionary course. He left for his mission in February 1907 and served in the Central States. He labored first in Louisiana, but while there he took sick with malaria fever and was transferred to Oklahoma. He filled a wonderful mission and returned home in May, 1909, with a knowledge of the Gospel, and conviction that the Prophet Joseph Smith had restored the true Gospel of Jesus Christ to the earth.